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I Remember the Peonies

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I Remember the Peonies

Marianna Jensen

my holiday grandmother
must have known the habits of peony ants
in any weather
she could eye an ant from her porch swing
even when her eyes flowered rheumatism
I knew my holiday grandmother
would always be there
to grasp my hands like the new spring
fuschia impressions in my palms
shifting from petal room to another
holiday grandmother eyeing us

the

ants